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U.S. Department of the Interior

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Apostle Islands News Release

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PARTNERS AT THE NORTHERN GREAT LAKES VISITOR CENTER TO PARTICIPATE IN NATIONAL PARK FOUNDATION'S 2012 PARKS CLIMATE CHALLENGE PROGRAM

Apostle Islands National Lakeshore, the University of Wisconsin – Extension, and the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission to Partner With Teachers Over Summer to Develop Climate Change Curriculum For Upcoming School Year

Ashland, Wisconsin - The [National Park Foundation](http://www.nationalparkfoundation.org), the official charity of America's national parks, announced that Apostle Islands National Lakeshore will be one of the eight grant recipients participating in the 2012 [Parks Climate Challenge](http://www.nationalparkfoundation.org/parks-climate-challenge) program using national parks as classrooms to educate students about climate change through funding and facilitation. The ability to learn about this important issue through a hands-on, science-based field curriculum, has proven a positive model through which to reach students. The National Park Service will be working with the University of Wisconsin – Extension, the Friends of the Center Alliance, Ltd., and the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission, to develop curriculum and teacher training to augment the new "Changing Climate...Changing Cultures" exhibit at the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center in Ashland, Wisconsin. The exhibit highlights the effects of climate change on Great Lakes' natural and cultural resources through exploring the inter-relationship between the Ojibwe culture and the Lake Superior environment. Apostle Island National Lakeshore's "Changing Culture, Changing Climate" teacher training is scheduled for July 16-19. Program information and registration materials will be posted at <http://fyi.uwex.edu/nglvc/>

"Climate change is a profound problem and the youth of America need to be at the forefront of the solution," said Neil Mulholland, President and CEO of the National Park Foundation. "Parks Climate Challenge is just one of our programs that empowers our youth and strengthens our parks."

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The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

Now in its third year, the Parks Climate Challenge program first connects with teachers, giving them the tools to create engaging curriculum to teach to their students on the subject of climate change. The program provides educators both in-person trainings and a wealth of online resources to draw from. Providing teachers the platform, information and tools to develop hands-on service projects, they in turn create dynamic lessons for their students incorporating national park experiences either within or outside the boundaries of a national park. Teachers will also lead their students on field trips to the parks they are studying to deepen their understanding of climate change and their connection to the national parks.

In addition to **Apostle Islands National Lakeshore**, the following seven parks have been selected to participate in the 2012 Parks Climate Challenge program:

- [Glacier National Park](#), Montana
- [Cape Cod National Seashore](#), Massachusetts
- [Capulin Volcano National Monument](#), New Mexico
- [Lake Mead National Recreation Area](#), Nevada
- [Yellowstone National Park](#), Wyoming
- [Crater Lake National Park](#), Oregon
- [National Mall and Memorial Parks](#), Washington, D.C.

Though all the grant recipients will participate directly in the National Park Foundation program, teachers everywhere can utilize the unique and versatile program model to replicate the valuable learnings and strategies nationally through the online site www.parksclimatechallenge.org. This project was made possible through the generous support of Inner Spark Foundation and individual donors, and is done in partnership with the National Park Service and the National Park Foundation.

For more information, visit www.parksclimatechallenge.org.

ABOUT THE NATIONAL PARK FOUNDATION

You are the owner of 84 million acres of the world's most treasured memorials, landscapes, ecosystems, and historic sites -- all protected in America's nearly 400 national parks. Chartered by Congress, the National Park Foundation is the official charity of America's national parks. We work hand in hand with the National Park Service to connect you and all Americans to the parks, and to make sure that they are preserved for the generations who will follow. Join us in supporting your national parks -- this is your land. www.nationalparks.org.

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